MINUTES

—OF THE—

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Salem Baptist Association

HELD WITH

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, TARENTUM, PIKE COUNTY, ALABAMA,

COMMENCING THURSDAY, SEPT. 30th, 1897.

OFFICERS.

D. C. ALLEN, Moderator.....Brundidge, Ala.
W. B. DARBY, Clerk and Treasurer.....Troy, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1897.

MINUTES.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Session of the Salem Baptist Association convened with St. John's church, at Tarentum, Pike county, Ala., on Thursday, Sept. 30th, 1897.

Elder J. M. Loflin preached the introductory sermon from the text recorded in the 14th verse of the 4th chapter of Esther.

At 2 p. m. the messengers assembled in the house for the purpose of organizing and were called to order by Elder D. C. Allen.

The letters were handed in and read by Bro. H. J. Wise, of the Pea River Association, and Elder A. J. Brooks, of the Sardis, from which it was found that the following brethren were the duly accredited messengers of the churches:

Henderson—Elders J. M. Loflin and B. H. Ogletree, J. A. Jones, W. C. Sanders, W. B. Darby and C. M. Logan.
St. Johns—Elders E. M. Brooks and J. D. Allen, A. G. Burdrich, C. M. Stinson, M. C. Crenshaw and U. S. Fuller.
Spring Hill—R. D. Windham, R. P. Rhodes, H. Nelson, W. H. Manning and W. P. Ross.
Starkeville—J. C. Spivey and N. A. McLeod.
Shady Grove—Elder D. C. Allen and J. C. Dyar.
Bethel—T. C. Wadkins.
Pea River—R. S. Bowdin and W. B. Bowdin.
Harmony—Elder J. J. Nelson and S. C. Curry.
Lebanon—J. W. Kelley and C. T. Spradley.
Ebenezer—I. C. Andress.
White Rock—Elder J. W. Reynolds, W. F. Newsom and R. C. Flowers.
Mt. Moriah—C. N. Mallett and W. N. Zeigler.
Antioch—E. W. Smith, W. J. Wilson, R. L. Stewart and R. F. Davis.
Zebulon—B. F. Hickman and W. M. Tillery.
Chapel Hill—J. A. Stokes.
Providence—J. D. Carter.
Enon—L. R. Renfroe, M. J. McKee and A. D. Renfroe.
Good Hope—Not represented.
Richland—Not represented.

The election of officers being in order, Elder D. C. Allen was re-elected Moderator and Bro. W. B. Darby Clerk and Treasurer.

The Moderator then declared the session organized and announced the following committees:

Divine Services—W. F. Newsom, with St. John's messengers.
Finance—R. D. Windham, C. M. Logan and M. J. McKee.

CORRESPONDENTS PRESENT.

Bro. A. J. Wise, from the Pea River Association.
Elder A. J. Brooks, from the Sardis Association.
Elder W. W. Faulkner, from the Newton Association.
Bros. G. Hendrick and John E. Moore, from the Troy Association.

AGENTS REPORTED.

For the Alabama Baptist—Elder D. C. Allen.
Judson Institute and Howard College—Elder W. W. Faulkner.
State, Home and Foreign Mission Boards——, ——, ——.

The following special committees were appointed:

On Documents—W. C. Sanders, B. H. Ogletree, R. P. Rhodes.
On Nominations—C. T. Spradley, W. J. Wilson, C. M. Stinson.
On Periodicals—J. D. Allen, J. D. Carter, I. C. Andress.
On Colportage—J. J. Nelson, J. W. Reynolds, E. W. Smith.
On Deceased Ministers—C. N. Mallett, W. H. Manning, U. S. Fuller.

On motion, the time for meeting and adjourning was fixed so as to meet at 8:30 a. m. and adjourn at 11 for preaching; re-assemble at 1:30 p. m. and adjourn at will.

Adjourned until 8:30 in the morning.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session.

Met promptly at 8:30 a. m., the Moderator in the chair.

Prayer by Elder W. W. Faulkner.

The minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

The members composing the Committee on Missions being absent, the Moderator appointed the following named brethren in place of absentees: J. W. Reynolds, A. J. Burdrich and J. Black.

The Executive Committee reported as follows:

Report of Executive Committee.

Your Executive Committee beg leave to report that, pursuant to order, we have inaugurated a system of Fifth Sunday Meetings, which, to our minds, have resulted in much good to those present. But they have not been attended as largely as desired, and we would urge the churches to participate in and aid in these instructive meetings. Our next meeting will be held with White Rock church commencing on Friday, the 29th inst. Indigent Minister fund collected and paid over, $3.00.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. Sanders,
Chairman.

The report on Sunday Schools was read, as follows:

Report on Sunday Schools.

Your committee find that only about three-fourths of the churches have reported Sunday Schools during the year, and these reports are meager, so that we have but little information from which a report

can be made. We note with regret that some of these schools are dragging or are indifferently managed, and that some of the churches neglect this important work wholly.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. McLENDON,
Chairman.

Discussed by Bros. W. W. Faulkner, J. M. Loflin and A. J. Brooks, and adopted.

Elder J. M. Loflin, Chairman, read the report on Education, as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Among the affairs claiming our attention, education is by far the most important. The time is past when one can get along successfully without it; might as well try to drive iron spikes with a wooden maul. The girls need education more than the boys. The women are the mothers of our children; and can they teach the children that which they are ignorant of? It is said that one takes his physical powers and his appetite from the father, and his intellect and morals from the mother. Educated people are not necessarily learned, but one must be taught to apply what he has learned, to be educated. But few educated persons find their way into prisons for crime. We need an educated congregation quite as much as an educated ministry. Our colleges cannot be well patronized until our system of primary training is better managed. Parents should look well to the school their children attend. Ours are the best colleges in the world—the Howard for the boys, and the Judson for the girls. Let us think, pray and labor together for the advancement of our educational interests.

Spoken to by Bros. Loflin and Faulkner, and adopted.

The hour for preaching having arrived, the Association adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

[NOTE.—Bro. W. W. Faulkner preached at the arbor, and Bro. A. J. Brooks at the house. Collection, $6.85].

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Moderator called the Association to order promptly at 1:30 o'clock.

The reports on Temperance and Missions were postponed until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The Treasurer's Report was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Committee on Periodicals reported as follows:

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

Your committee on Periodicals believe in, and would recommend, the constant and prayerful study of the Bible, and, after that, our own Alabama Baptist, which is our organ and eminently worthy of our support and patronage. Also our Mission Journals, and Kind Words,

for our little folks. The Texas Baptist Standard, The Baptist Flag, The Baptist Reflector, and Ford's Christian Repository, also, are excellent Baptist papers, and are worthy of our support.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. ALLEN,
Chairman.

Spoken to by Bros. Darby, Loflin, Brooks and Allen, and adopted.

Then the Association contributed $1.00 to pay for the Alabama Baptist for Elder E. M. Brooks.

The report on Documents was read, and, upon motion, was divided, and that part of it relating to disbanding the old "Salem" Association and entering a new "Pike County" organization was referred back to the churches, without recommendation. And the second part, relating to the place for our next session, was re-committed to the Committee on Nominations.

The report on Nominations was read, as follows:

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We recommend that our next session be held with Spring Hill church, and that Elder D. C. Allen preach the introductory sermon.

Delegates to State Convention—Elders D. C. Allen and J. D. Allen, and Bros. W. C. Sanders and J. W. Kelly.

Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention—Elder J. M. Loflin.

Executive Committee—Bros. C. T. Spradley, C. N. Mallett and A. J. Burdrich.

Respectfully submitted,

C. T. SPRADLEY,
Chairman.

Discussed by various brethren, and postponed until to-morrow morning after the reading of the minutes.

On motion, the Association adjourned until to-morrow.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Elder A. J. Brooks.

After calling and revising the roll, the minutes of the previous day's session were read and approved.

The question then recurring to the report on Nominations, it was adopted without discussion.

The report on Colportage was read by Bro. J. J. Nelson, as follows:

Your committee knows of no destitution within our bounds, yet we believe that such work is needful; and we would recommend that our pastors do such colportage work as they may find needful during the next associational year.

The report was adopted.

Bro. C. N. Mallett, Chairman, read the following report on Deceased Ministers, which was adopted:

So far as we are informed, the Lord has spared us our ministers, for which we are profoundly grateful.

The report on Temperance was read for the committee by Bro. J. M. Loflin, as follows:

We are glad to state that dram-drinking is on the decrease, a drunk man being very rarely seen. This is the effect of a common sentiment against it. Notwithstanding much is said about the passage of whisky laws, your committee is of the opinion that the legislature has done everything essential to restrain the traffic, and yet it goes on. Barkeepers are frequently prosecuted for infringement of law, and they are acquitted by a jury of whisky-drinkers. It remains for the churches to suppress the evil by educating the people against it.

Spoken to by Bros. Loflin, McLendon, Brooks and Nelson, and adopted.

The report on Missions was read by Elder W. G. Reynolds, Chairman, as follows:

It is with profound gratitude to the Giver of all Good, that the privilege of preaching the gospel has been given his people, by opening the doors of every nation. There was a time, when several of the countries of the known world, forbade strangers entering their territory; among these were China, Japan and Cuba, which was domineered by Spain. Now the doors of all of them are open to our missionaries, and in obedience to the great command, the gospel is preached there too, teaching them "to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo! I am with you always, even to the end." The missionary spirit is the spirit of Christ and the friend of mankind. "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I have commanded you." Wonderful success has crowned the work of our missionaries in China, Japan, Brazil, Italy and Mexico. The paramount question to us is, shall we sit down upon the stool of do-nothing and see our wide-awake brethren accomplish so much for the glory of God, almost unaided by the old Salem Association? We hope not.

Spoken to by Bros. Loflin and Nelson (to the preachers mainly), and adopted.

The following resolution was read and unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the Association and visitors present, tender our profound thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends at St. John's for the untiring and bountiful hospitality we have enjoyed during the session.

The Moderator made an appeal in behalf of Elder E. M. Brooks, and collected for him $4.55.

The report on Finance was read and adopted as follows:

We find,

For missions, in cash	$77 16
By voucher	27 50
For Bro. E. M. Brooks, Indigent Minister	2 25
For minutes, cash	26 60
Balance in hands of Treasurer	11 79
	$145 25

We find the Treasurer's Report correct.

Respectfully submitted,
R. D. WINDHAM, Chairman.

On motion the Clerk was instructed to have 500 copies of the minutes printed and distributed, and to retain balance of minute fund for his services.

Standing committees for next session appointed as follows:

On Education—J. D. McLendon, C. N. Mallett and W. R. Hardin.
On Temperance—R. D. Windham, W. W. Smith and Jno. A. Jones.
On Missions—J. M. Loflin, W. J. Reynolds and T. W. Law.
On Sunday Schools—J. J. Nelson, W. B. Darby and C. D. Hardin.

On motion, the final reading and revision of the minutes was left to the discretion of the Clerk.

The work of the Association being finished, it adjourned, to meet with Spring Hill church (8 miles south of Troy), on Thursday before the first Sunday in October, 1898.

D. C. ALLEN, MODERATOR.

W. B. DARBY, Clerk.

THE CLERK TO THE CHURCHES.

Don't fail to take action at an early day on the proposition of forming a new association to be composed of all the Baptist churches in Pike county. Be sure to let your associational letter show, not only your statistics, but all amounts contributed to whatever cause, together with facts about your Sunday Schools and prayer meetings, also your Clerk's post-office. Let the last items in your letters be the value and seating capacity of your church houses. Without these reports I can not make correct reports to "The Baptist Year Book" of the Southern Baptist Convention. Please help me, brethren!

Fraternally,
W. B. DARBY.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

D. C. Allen	Brundidge, Ala.	J. D. Allen	Frescoe, Ala.
D. B. Mills	Troy, "	J. J. Macon	Milo, "
J. M. Loflin	Henderson, "	B. H. Ogletree,	Henderson, "
W. J. Reynolds	Baltic, "	E. M. Brooks	Frescoe, "
J. J. Nelson	Harmony, "	T. J. Welsh	Banks, "

STATISTICAL TABLE OF SALEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1897.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	CLERK'S NAME AND POST-OFFICE.	No. Last Reported.	GAINS			LOSSES.				Present Membership.	CONTRIBUTIONS.				
			By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Erasure.	By Death.		Missions.	Orphans' Home.	Bro. Brooks.	Minutes.	TOTALS.
Ebenezer	R. A. Morgan, Catalpa	92	1	2		2	1			92	$ 2 00	$	$	$ 2 10	$ 4 50
Enon	J. T. Renfroe, Josie	71	16	9		3	5			82	2 25			1 50	3 75
Zebulon	W. M. Tillery, Catalpa	18	2				1			22	1 75			1 50	3 25
Richland	S. M. Greene, Brundidge	43													
Providence	Willie Wilks, Banks	39	2	5			4			38	2 52			75	3 27
Bethel	S. J. Andress, Banks	72	2	7		3	3		1	78	3 25			2 00	5 25
Antioch	R. F. Davis, Brundidge	69	4	1		6	1			67		1 00		1 20	2 20
Pea River	W. H. Mahoney, Brundidge	39		2	1	3				45	3 80			1 25	5 05
Shady Grove	T. B. Allen, Brundidge	26	3	3	1	2				31	2 00			1 00	3 00
St. Johns	U. S. Fuller, Frescoe	141				5	2		2	132			1 00	2 60	3 60
Good Hope		104													
Spring Hill	T. W. Lane, Milo	164		4		18	1		1	146	9 60	40		2 60	12 60
White Rock	Henry Spencer, Baltic	72	6	3			3			80	2 70			1 00	3 70
Henderson	C. M. Logan, Henderson	116	2	9		2		27	1	97	20 00			2 00	22 00
Mt. Moriah	C. N. Mallett, Curry	68	2	2	1	12	2			56	4 00			1 75	5 75
Harmony	J. F. Brightwell, Harmony	43	4	5			1			47	7 15		1 20	1 10	9 45
Lebanon	G. F. Youngblood, Youngblood	26		16	1		2			41	10 06			1 50	11 56
Starkeville	E. M. Ham, Worthy	27	4	4	1	9	1			26	2 20			1 25	3 45
Chapel Hill	S. B. Stephens, Glee	57								57	3 05			1 50	4 55
TOTALS		1287	48	72	5	65	27	27	5	1237	$77 10	$1 40	$2 20	$26 60	$105 76

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. The delivery of Introductory Sermon.
2. Call for and read letters from the churches.
3. Organize by election of officers.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Appoint Committees on Preaching and Finance.
6. Appoint the hours for meeting and adjourning.
7. Call for Correspondents.
8. Call for agents, etc.
9. Appoint Committees on Documents, Bible Cause, Periodicals, Nominations and Deceased Ministers.
10. Call for report on Education and Temperance.
11. Read minutes, call and revise the roll.
12. Call for Treasurer's report.
13. Call for reports on Missions and Sunday Schools.
14. Call for reports of the Committees under 9th item.
15. Miscellaneous business.
16. Appoint Committees on Education, Temperance, Missions and Sunday Schools for next session.
17. Report of Committee on Finance.
18. Fix Clerk's salary and arrange for printing minutes. Read and approve minutes.
19. Adjourn.

NOTE.—The above order of business was arranged at the 53d session of the Salem Association. The Clerk was instructed to have it printed on the "fly leaf" of the minutes, with this note appended requiring all succeeding Clerks to observe this arrangement.—CLERK.